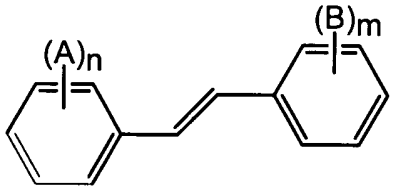
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and, as an active component, 0.1 to 5% by weight of at least one member selected from a compound represented by Formula (1) or a multimer thereof:



(1)

wherein A and B are the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, amino, amidino, anilinoamide, mercapto, sulfonic acid, phosphate, carboxy, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, sugar residue, -OR^1, and –$OCOR^2$;

wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_5 alkyl, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, and C_2-C_5 alkenyl; and

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, and C_2-C_5 alkenyl;

n is number of substituents A present and is a number from 0 to 5; and

m is number of substituents B present and is a number from 0 to 5; and

wherein the composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of soft drinks, juice, tea, powdered juice, powdered soup, cookies, biscuits, cereals, chewable tablets, chewing gums, candies, gummy candies, wafers, senbei (Japanese rice crackers), dressing, sauce, powdered seasoning, bread, noodles, mochi (rice cake), fish paste products, tablets, paste, ~~and~~ jelly, dentifrices, liquid dentifrices, mouthwashes, and oral liniments.

2. (Original) The composition according to claim 1 which is a pharmaceutical composition.

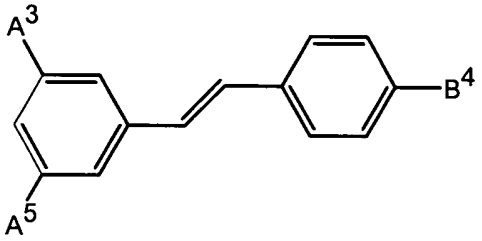
3. (Original) The composition according to claim 1 which is a food composition.

Claims 4-6 (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 1 which is an oral composition.

8. (Original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by formula (1) and its multimers are derived from one or more members selected from the group consisting of plants of the Polygonaceae family, plants of the Vitaceae family, white hellebore (Veratrum album), mulberry and peanut.

9. (Previously presented) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the compound represented by Formula (1) is substituted at least as follows:

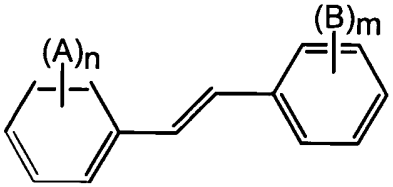


wherein A^3, A^5, and B^4 are the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, sugar residue, and $-OCOR^2$;

wherein R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, and C_2-C_5 alkenyl.

10. (Original) The composition according to claim 1 which further contains one or more members selected from the group consisting of vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin K, related compounds thereof, calcium and magnesium.

11. (Currently amended) A method for ~~increasing breaking load and breaking energy in bones of a mammal without significantly increasing bone density, comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of~~ preventing or treating diseases accompanied by a decrease in bone weight comprising administering at least one member selected from the compound represented by Formula (1) or a multimer thereof from about 0.1 mg per day to about 20 mg per kg per day:



(1)

wherein A and B are the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, amino, amidino, anilinoamide, mercapto, sulfonic acid, phosphate, carboxy, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, sugar residue, $-OR^1$, and $-OCOR^2$;

wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_5 alkyl, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, and C_2-C_5 alkenyl; and

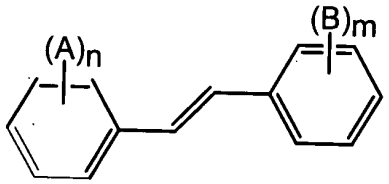
R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, and C_2-C_5 alkenyl;

n is number of substituents A present and is a number from 0 to 5; and

m is number of substituents B present and is a number from 0 to 5.

Claims 12-18 (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A method for preventing cerebral apoplexy in a mammal, comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of at least one member selected from the compound represented by Formula (1) or a multimer thereof from about 0.1 mg per day to about 20 mg per kg per day:



(1)

wherein A and B are the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, amino, amidino, anilinoamide, mercapto, sulfonic acid, phosphate, carboxy, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, sugar residue, $-OR^1$, and $-OCOR^2$;

wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_5 alkyl, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, and C_2-C_5 alkenyl; and

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_5 alkyl, hydroxy C_1-C_5 alkyl, and C_2-C_5 alkenyl;

n is number of substituents A present and is a number from 0 to 5; and

m is number of substituents B present and is a number from 0 to 5.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the disease accompanied by a decrease in bone weight is any of menopausal or postmenopausal diseases.

21. (Previously presented)The method according to Claim 11, wherein said compound is part of a pharmaceutical formulation.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said compound is part of a food product.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the disease accompanied by a decrease in bone weight is a disease accompanied by resorption of alveolar bone.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein said compound is adapted for oral administration performed by a medium selected from the group consisting of dentifrice, liquid dentifrice, mouthwash, mouth spray, oral liniment, swab, and floss.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the compound represented by Formula (1) is obtained from at least one plant selected from the group consisting of plants of Polygonaceae family, plants of Vitaceae family, white hellebore (Veratrum album), mulberry, and peanut.

26. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 19, wherein said compound is part of a pharmaceutical formulation.

27. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 19, wherein said compound is part of a food product.

28. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 19, wherein ~~hypertension or the disease resulting from hypertension~~ cerebral apoplexy is present in menopausal or post-menopausal period.

29. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 19, wherein the compound represented by Formula (1) is obtained from at least one plant selected from the group consisting of plants of Polygonaceae family, plants of Vitaceae family, white hellebore (Veratrum album), mulberry, and peanut.